GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1677
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
GARUDA CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE .
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of connections given by MTNL`s Garuda Cellular Phone Service as on date;

(b) the number of cases in which handset theft complaint have been received;

(c) the total cost of a handset and the amount recovered from each subscriber who have lost the handset; and

(d) the steps taken to bridge the gap between cost of handset and the amount recovered from subscribers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): The number of connections given and the number of complaints regarding theft of handset received in Delhi and Mumbai as on 28th February, 2002 were as under.

	Delhi	Mumbai
i) Connections given	23029	4682
ii) Complaints regarding theft of handset	171	09

(c) The price of a handset is Rs. 17,288/- whereas the amount recovered from a subscriber for loss of handset is Rs. 10000/-

(d)The security deposit has been kept low compared to the cost of the handset in order to make the service affordable to the common man. The price of handset is expected to come down due to high volume of demand generated by widespread use o this technology in future.